

February 18, 2011

CORE SPONSORS



Dear Principals, Counselors, ESL/ENL Coordinators, Teachers and Staff:

We write to you on behalf of the Indianapolis Chapter of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMBA). At NSHMBA, we hope to grow our ranks to include an ever-increasing number of Hispanic business professionals. The low numbers of Hispanic students pursuing college degrees results in a dearth of eligible candidates to obtain advanced degrees and fill the ranks of leadership in Indiana and corporate America. We realize that the successful completion of college is a critical step to further achievement. We hope that through **Project Stepping Stone**, the path to a college degree and beyond will be illuminated for the participating high school students, as well as those individuals with whom the participants share their experience.

Each year since 2004, NSHMBA and its partners have organized Project Stepping Stone, a one-week program held each summer to help Hispanic high school sophomores, juniors and seniors learn about and prepare for college, at **no cost to the students or parents**. The admitted students will travel to and stay overnight at the campuses of Indiana State University, Indiana University- Purdue University Indianapolis, Ball State University, and Marian University. While there, they will participate in workshops, presentations, team building exercises, social events, a community service project and career fair. This year, we plan to admit 100 students from across Indiana.

The program will be held from **Sunday, June 12 through Saturday, June 18, 2011**. The students will be challenged to become leaders in their communities and use the knowledge they have gained to help guide other students to college. **This experience will make a difference in their lives.**

We are asking for your help in spreading the word about Project Stepping Stone to your students and encouraging them to apply. Enclosed are several key documents about Project Stepping Stone. Students can apply to the program through our website at www.projectsteppingstone.org. **The application deadline is April 15, 2011.** However, application review will be rolling, so priority will be given to those students who complete their application early—please encourage students to submit their applications well in advance of the deadline. A letter to the parents in Spanish and English is also enclosed. We encourage you to make copies for distribution to the students and parents.

Together we can make a difference in the lives of these young students. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please contact us at (317) 428-4555 or by email at president@indianapolis.nshmba.org.

Sincerely,

Moses Vejil
Project Stepping Stone Committee Chair

Kathy Cabello
NSHMBA – Indianapolis President

About Project Stepping Stone

Project Stepping Stone operates in partnership with Indiana businesses, the State of Indiana, as well as universities and high schools throughout the state. Our focus is on breaking down barriers, building trust, preparing students for college, providing college orientation, and providing opportunities for leadership development and community involvement. All of these activities and experiences are provided by caring business and university volunteers at **no cost** to the student or parents.

About NSHMBA

NSHMBA is a 32 chapter, 8,000 member professional organization whose mission is to foster Hispanic leadership through graduate management education and professional development. NSHMBA works to prepare Hispanics for leadership positions throughout the United States, so that they can provide the cultural awareness and sensitivity vital in the management of the nation's diverse workforce.